

However, Sam's involvement in his community far outdates his rise to mayor. Sam Smith was a true fixture in Cartersville, and his shoes will be hard ones to fill. This is a man who earlier today was laid to rest less than a mile from the place where he was born 58 years ago.

After graduating from the University of Tennessee with a degree in finance, Sam quickly became a shining star for the Bartow County community. In 1972, he was named Cartersville's Outstanding Young Man of the Year, and in 1979, he was named one of five Outstanding Young Men in the State of Georgia by the Georgia Jaycees. These early accolades were followed by years of service to the community that honored him.

At the age of 26, Sam became president of Bartow County Bank, making him the youngest bank president in the State of Georgia. His distinguished tenure lasted for 20 years. More recently, he cofounded and served as president of Century Bank, the position he held at the time of his death.

Sam Smith exemplified that "personal banker" we value in a bank. So many people remember Sam as a banker who gave them their first loan, their first job, or that first vote of confidence in their new home or business.

Sam was also intimately involved in community organizations. He served as president of the Cartersville-Bartow Chamber of Commerce in the early 1980s and as chairman of the Georgia Bar Association Committee on Fee Arbitration in the 1990s. At the time of his death, Sam was chairman of the Independent Bankers Association's Bank Services Committee.

Sam Smith's community involvement went well beyond the financial sector. He helped bring a new Georgia Highlands College campus to Cartersville, and was an active member of Sam Jones United Methodist Church, and was an avid supporter of Cartersville's high school athletics. Just 12 days ago I was honored to be his guest at the Cartersville-Carrollton football game. Sam knew every Purple Hurricane by first name.

Last night I attended Sam's wake, and I was reminded of the impact a leader can have on the community he serves. Everyone shared words of praise, joyful memories, and personal stories I know will be told for many years to come.

It is fitting that the current mayor of Cartersville, a job Sam held with such honor, eloquently captured the spirit of Sam Smith this week. Cartersville mayor Mike Fields commented, "I can't think of anybody else who cared more about this city than Sam Smith. Very few people put as much heart and soul into the city than Sam. His accomplishments speak for themselves, but it will take an awful lot of effort from a lot of folks to replace what he did."

Madam Speaker, the residents of Cartersville, Georgia, were fortunate to

have Sam leading their community. He made Bartow County a better place to live, to do business, even cheer on a local baseball team. It was a privilege to know him, and his presence will be deeply missed.

Madam Speaker, today Bartow County said goodbye to a favorite son. I offer my condolences to his family, his friends, and his beloved community. I know that while Sam Smith is no longer with us, his legacy will continue for many years to come.

#### TIME TO TAKE THE INCENTIVES OUT OF PRICE-GOUGING BY THE OIL COMPANIES

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GINGREY). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, we saw an extraordinary event: The Republican leadership of Congress asking, pretty please, if the oil industry would build more refineries.

Now, of course, this flies in the face of the strategy of the oil industry and everything that has been done in the so-called energy bills we have passed so far, which is providing incentives, tax subsidies, and status quo to the oil and gas industry. In fact, in the last 10 years, the oil industry, through mergers, has managed to close half of the refineries in America. And now today, when we see extortion in prices for gas at the pump, and we say, why is that? And they say, we do not have enough refineries. And then they say, those darn environmentalists. But they do not put it in the same sentence, because they know it is not true. Not a single refinery was closed for environmental reasons.

They have not applied to build new refineries. They, in fact, have consciously closed refineries and squeezed down refinery capacity, so like Enron in California, when they shut down their generating plants, they can say, oh, the price has got to go up. We do not have enough of the product out there.

In fact, if you look at where consumers' money is going, if you take gas at \$2.50 a gallon, about 95 cents of that is going to the refiners. That is up from the historic average of 27 cents, a 400 percent increase in profits to refiners, which is adding up to a wonderful bottom line for the oil companies. Today Conoco-Phillips announced that their profits are up 89 percent over this quarter last year, \$3.8 billion in the third quarter. Not bad. BP, kind of a piker here, probably their stock will go down; their profits only went up 34 percent. What Americans' wages went up 34 percent, except maybe some of the CEOs of these companies, \$6.53 billion?

But Exxon Mobil, the big one, will announce tomorrow, and it is widely expected among analysts, that they will report third quarter profits, one quarter, that is 3 months, of nearly \$9 billion, which will be the largest quar-

terly profit for any corporation in the history of the world, and there is no price gouging going on.

Now, one part of that sentence was true, and the other part was a lie. The first part was true: The largest ever quarterly profit in the history of the world will go to Exxon Mobil, who has closed dozens of refineries, and then they say, well, we do not have enough capacity. The Republican leadership says, pretty please, might you build more refineries?

Now, the oil industry is getting a little worried because the American people are kind of onto this game. We saw over three bucks a gallon on the west coast on Labor Day weekend, but guess what? We are not in the east coast supply chain. Now, what justified that, except for price gouging and profit-taking, which did contribute to the largest ever quarterly profit for a corporation in the history of the world? Oregonians and other Westerners contributed to that, or were extorted to contribute to that?

And the industry is starting to get a little worried that maybe some meaningful action might happen, but they do not have to worry, because we have two oilmen in the White House, and we have a Republican leadership in Congress that says, pretty please, would you please do something about this, and you better not price gouge anybody.

In fact, the so-called energy bill we passed just about 10 days ago, energy bill II, all the bad ideas that did not fit into energy bill I, actually would have penalties for price gouging. But they could not be applied to refiners whose profits are up 400 percent, or to producers, crude oil producers, whose profits are up 50 percent, or even to distributors, but to retailers whose profits are up 2 percent.

Now, it is not the Mom and Pop gas station that is gouging the consumers. They are at the end of the chain. They get the gas; they get a tiny little markup. They are not the ones manipulating the system.

It is time to break up these energy cartels, no more mergers, break up some of these megacompanies that have been created, apply a windfall profits tax to take the incentive out of price gouging, adopt meaningful price gouging legislation like 23 States in the Union have; do that nationally to reign this in, go after OPEC and their restriction of supply in violation of WTO.

The President is a great free trader until it comes to OPEC, because he could file a free trade complaint about them, but he will not. I have written to him. I have asked him. I have introduced legislation. They will not hear it; they will not let us vote on it. Nobody wants to take on OPEC, because they are working hand in glove with Exxon Mobil and the big oil companies. They are all getting really rich together, and the American consumers are getting taken to the cleaners.

Short term we could save tens of billions of dollars for American industry, business, consumers, and others, and then long term we need an energy policy in America, something that has not happened in 5 years, even with Dick Cheney's secret meetings at the beginning of his term as Vice President. What we have is more subsidies for the oil, coal, and gas industry instead of a visionary energy policy that will get us new fuels, new technologies for the future, and make us energy-independent and efficient.

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The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GINGREY). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BURGESS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. BURGESS addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

#### ORDER OF BUSINESS

Mrs. SCHMIDT. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to speak out of order for 5 minutes.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Ohio?

There was no objection.

#### HONORING THE MEMORY OF CIN- CINNATI, OHIO NATIVE MARINE STAFF SERGEANT RICHARD T. PUMMILL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Ohio (Mrs. SCHMIDT) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mrs. SCHMIDT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of a brave soldier who died in Iraq nobly defending our freedom and in the service of our country. Staff Sergeant Richard Pummill was killed in action while on combat operations in the Al Anbar Province on Thursday, October 20, 2005.

Rick is remembered as a star athlete who participated in football and wrestling at Anderson High School where he graduated in 1996. His friends and family knew him as a fun-loving, outgoing, and energetic person who loved life and his family. He also loved his community and his country. He was an individual who wanted to do something special with his life. He decided that special purpose was to join the Marines and serve his country.

He truly loved his country, and our Nation is a richer place because of his presence. Devoted to his family, Rick is survived by his wife, Chantal; his son, Donald; his parents, Lynn and Tom; and his loving grandparents.

Visitations are going on this evening in Cincinnati. He will be honored with a full military funeral tomorrow, Thursday, October 27, and buried at the Mt. Moriah Cemetery in Withamsville, Ohio. All of us mourn Rick's loss and are grateful for his brave and valiant service to our country.

I ask my colleagues to join me in praying for his family in their time of grief and need. May Richard Pummill rest in peace.

#### 2,000 DEAD IN IRAQ

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, his name is Staff Sergeant George T. Alexander of Clanton, Alabama. He died on Saturday, 5 days after a bomb exploded near his vehicle about 60 miles north of Baghdad. He was the 2,000th brave American to give his life in the Iraq war.

My deepest sympathies go out to his family, who I hope finds some comfort in the knowledge that Sergeant George Alexander is remembered by all of us as a true national hero. We mourn the loss of Staff Sergeant Alexander just as we continue to mourn all 1,999 who came before him.

In my recent visit to Iraq, nothing made a greater impression on me than the intelligence, decency, and loyalty I saw in our soldiers. They really are the best our country has to offer. It pains me to think that any one of them could become casualty number 2,001; 2,002; 2,050; or 2,060. And it pains me that we clearly do not have civilian leaders worthy of our troops.

It pains me that these soldiers have been betrayed by their superiors who sent them to Iraq on false pretenses, on a poorly defined mission without all of the tools they needed and without a plan to bring them home.

2,000 deaths is 2,000 too many for this mission, a mission which was immorally conceived and has been incompetently managed. The devastating truth is that Americans are not safer because of this war. We are not defeating the insurgency; we are inspiring it. That is not the fault of the men and women wearing the uniform; it is just the nature of this conflict.

Every day that we occupy Iraq breeds more resentment, more vicious and violent anti-Americanism. As one military commander put it, for every insurgent killed, three more are created. How do we win such a war? And let us not forget that the very first casualty in this war was the truth.

The President waxes idealistic about spreading freedom. But we all know that if spreading freedom had been the stated rationale for war back in 2002, there is no way this body would have authorized the use of force.

No, this was about the world's most dangerous weapons in the hands of most dangerous people. Remember, it was about yellow cake and aluminum tubes, mushroom clouds and nuclear winters. They engaged in a campaign of fear based on a lie.

Saddam Hussein had no weapons of mass destruction, a very expensive lie that has cost America 2,000 of its finest patriots. Their campaign of deceit was

absolutely reprehensible. But I think we also have to look forward, as well back; to focus on not just how we got into Iraq, but how we are going to get out.

I held a hearing last month to explore in detail that very question. But the President meanwhile can offer nothing but the emptiest of platitudes: it is hard work. Stay the course. We will be there as long as we need to be there. Terrorism bad, freedom good. That is all well and good, but what is the plan?

He says he is confident of victory. But what exactly constitutes victory? What are the benchmarks of success? What is the plan? What does the end-game look like?

If the President will not lead, then I guess the rest of us will have to do it for him. There are three measures that we can take immediately: first, multilateral corporation. The Iraq campaign never was a global coalition. But now we can prevent further loss of life by bringing the U.S. Armed Forces home while simultaneously encouraging the United Nations and the NATO Alliance to establish a multinational interim security force for Iraq.

Second, diplomatic nonmilitary initiatives. The U.S. must lead a diplomatic offensive, making its presence in Iraq a humanitarian partnership, rather than a military occupation.

Third, post-conflict reconciliation. The U.S. should work with the U.N. to designate an international peace commission to oversee Iraq's postwar reconciliation. It is time for the President to admit his mistakes, eat a little crow and shift course.

It is time to return Iraq to the Iraqi people and the troops safely home to their families.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. SCHMIDT). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. PAUL) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. PAUL addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

#### HONORING THE AMERICANS FALL- EN IN IRAQ AND AFGHANISTAN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. EMANUEL) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. EMANUEL. Madam Speaker, yesterday we marked a solemn milestone: over 2,000 American military personnel have now given their lives fighting in Iraq. 246 Americans have also fallen in the line of duty in Afghanistan.

We owe these brave men and women and their families a debt of gratitude that can never fully be repaid. In July of this year, I led a bipartisan group of 21 Members of Congress in reading the names of the fallen into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. Tonight we continue this tribute by reading the names of some of those who have fallen recently to complete the list.